

# The Suffragist

VOL. VI, No. 9  
FIVE CENTS

OFFICIAL WEEKLY ORGAN OF  
THE NATIONAL WOMAN'S PARTY

SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 1918



Lucretia Mott

# National Woman's Party

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## Notes of the Week

### Picketing

**A** CASE involving the principle of labor picketing similar to the case of the political picketing last summer in Washington has arisen in Philadelphia in connection with the arrest of a girl picket in a waitresses' strike.

The employees of a certain restaurant were striking for shorter hours and higher pay, the latter having been guaranteed to them by the laws of the state. One girl picket asked a question of a man who was entering the restaurant. She was arrested for violating the so-called peace and order act of Philadelphia corresponding to the District of Columbia ordinance under which the suffrage pickets were arrested.

Policemen who arrested the Philadelphia picket accused her of being a traitor to her country because she was occupied in labor agitation in time of war. That they were arresting the girl for one thing and accusing her of another did not disturb the police any more than the same sort of action bothered the authorities of the District last summer. Apparently it is beyond the grasp of the administrators of the law in this country to see that agitation in the interests of justice and democracy at the present time, is a most patriotic service to the country.

The waitress striker will probably not have to serve a sentence for picketing. Each time that a victory is won for a principle like that of picketing, the principle becomes more firmly established. The White House pickets have strengthened immensely the power of those petitioning for a redress of grievances by picketing.

### Suffrage in Uruguay

**T**HE "Accion Femenina," a woman's journal published in San Jose, Uruguay, reports in the December issue—the last one to reach this country—the first suffrage meeting to be held in Uruguay. This meeting was the beginning of an active campaign which will be waged for the vote.

One of the leaders of the movement is doctora Paulina Luisi, who delivered the principle speech at the meeting.

The South American women seem to have been spurred on to action at this time by the omission of any recognition of their sex in the recently ratified constitution of the country. This constitution goes so far as to admit at least that there is a question of the enfranchisement of women.

One clause of the constitution reads: "The recognition of the right of women to the active and passive vote in national or municipal affairs or in both can only be obtained by a majority of two-thirds of the total number of members of each of the two houses." Even at this the new Uruguay constitution goes farther than that of the United States. The securing of suffrage will be an easier process under this clause than of amending our own constitution.

Undoubtedly South American women as the women in this country have been encouraged to

make their fight now on account of the success which European women have had in winning the vote during the war.

### Indian Women Working for Their Sex

**M**ANY reports come from India of the progress of women in that country which has always been one of the most backward in granting privileges to women.

One of the pioneers of the woman movement, Pandita Lajjawati, is at present touring the country speaking in the interests of education for women and the establishment of colleges. There is already one woman's college in India which has been in operation for two years.

Another indication of the awakening of the women of India is the meeting which was held in Calcutta to celebrate the release of Mrs. Besant and her associates who were interned on account of revolutionary activity. More than three hundred of the most prominent women in the city attended the meeting. Resolutions were adopted condemning the policy of internment and demanding the release of all interned women.

It is interesting to notice that the concern of the women was for other women.

### British Labor Party and the Woman's Vote

**P**OLITICAL parties in England as well as in this country are beginning to bid for the woman's vote. In an article by Arthur Henderson he states the claims of the Labor Party for the support of the newly enfranchised six million women of Great Britain.

"The utmost that can be done by those of us who are concerned with the mobilization of the electorate in support of well-defined policies and causes is to give the women voters full information regarding our aims and our methods of political organization, and to explain to them the nature of the opportunity for effective work offered to them in the party. A further obligation arising out of the enfranchisement of great masses of citizens which the Labor Party, at any rate, is not disposed to evade, is the adaptation of the party's machinery in order to meet their legitimate claim to a share in the administration of the party's affairs, and a voice and vote in the formulation of its program.

"In addition to the carefully considered arrangements by which the women's voice and vote will be given effective expression in the local and national councils of the party, it has also been decided to appoint a woman officer whose special duty will be to foster the growth of the women's power and influence."

### Women in Advisory Capacities

**A**T the present time, in answer to the urgent appeals of the government, women are doing every possible sort of work to assist in the

conduct of the war. The government in return has not trusted a single woman with any real executive authority. On the war council the women serve in an advisory capacity. The responsibility for the food administration is wholly in the hands of men. The work in connection with Liberty Loan drives and the raising of money for war is shared by women, but the power rests with the men. The representative of the women's labor unions serves in an advisory capacity to the Secretary of Labor. The Red Cross has recently ordered that the head of every Red Cross Branch must be a man. This will mean that women who have been managing Red Cross work efficiently will be removed to make way for men.

The same lack of confidence which man made governments have shown by postponing the enfranchisement of women, they have shown in every other branch of work which they control.

### The Vote of New York Women

**T**HE result of the four by-elections held in New York on March 5, with the women voting for the first time, was the return to Congress of four Democrats to succeed the four who formerly held the seats. The results of the vote show that more than ninety per cent of the women registered voted, while a very much smaller per cent of the men registered voted. In actual numbers there were more men than women voting; the figures being 31,858 votes of women out of a total of 78,192.

The number of women who registered on the special registration days is very nearly the same as the number of men voting, showing that the women were interested in this election to approximately the same extent as the men. The larger registration of men is obviously on account of the fact that they registered before the presidential elections in 1916.

These New York women apparently consider the Democratic Party more their friend than the other parties. If this party is to continue to hold the support of the women it will have to use its power for the immediate passage by the Senate of the federal suffrage amendment.

### A New Brand of Patriot

**A** NEW "national" newspaper will soon make its appearance in Washington, according to advance announcements. Among those interested in starting the paper are Mrs. James W. Wadsworth and Col. Henry Watterson.

Frankly and unashamed the policy of the paper is given as follows:

"For home and national defense;

"Against woman suffrage, feminism and socialism."

The aims seem to contradict each other and also to contradict the title of the paper.—M. G. F.

## Country-wide Demand for Senate Action

THE zeal with which New York women are learning the direct action line in politics is upsetting all past political calculations in New York State. Knowing that the favorable vote of Senator Calder, the Junior member, and the unfavorable vote of Senator Wadsworth, the senior member of the Senate, cancel each other, and leave New York with no definite expression of the will of the state in the coming contest for suffrage on the floor of the Senate the women of New York State are bending every energy to changing the adverse vote, and they have Senator Calder's co-operation.

Members of the National Woman's Party in central New York have been sending deputations to both senators. From Senator Wadsworth they extracted the fact that the Republican Party itself in New York was split on suffrage. From Senator Calder they secured advice as to a plan of action.

The pursuit of the two senators reached its climax in Buffalo, where Wadsworth was expected as a visitor on last Friday and Saturday. Miss Elsie Hill, Miss Margaret Fotheringham, Miss Effie James and Miss Edith Ainge were there to meet him. He avoided hotels. His whereabouts at the home of a friend was discovered twenty minutes before train time, and it was over the telephone that the women learned that suffrage in New York was likely to split the Republican Party because of the stand of Senator Wadsworth. The senator reiterated his determination to vote NO on suffrage rather than "impose suffrage on states that did not want women to vote."

MRS. W. H. Blauvelt, as legislative chairman of the District, also conferred with Senator Wadsworth in a cleverly arranged interview in Rochester February 22.

She said, "I asked him to explain to me his conception of the meaning of enrollment, whether it meant faith and loyalty to the principles and the aims of party in which the enrollment is recorded.

"He replied that it did, that he had always understood it that way. I reminded him then that the Republican Party, the national committee and the party organization in the state of New York had indorsed the national suffrage amendment. How could he reconcile his attitude, then, with his ideas of all that membership in the party entailed?

"The senator then admitted that his *personal convictions* impelled his stand."

MRS. Frederick W. Hazard arranged a conference with Senator Calder in Syracuse the same week. The senator predicted that the Senate vote would be close, but that women would win, and advised the New York women of the Woman's Party to "get every Republican committee in the state of New York to pass resolutions demanding a favorable vote on suffrage from Wadsworth."

Senator Calder was also deputized by Woman's Party members in Buffalo, where Miss Fotheringham and Miss Ainge, both of whom had served terms in prison and wore their pins; were among the women present. "I am entitled to wear it for having served sixty days in the work-house for liberty," said Miss Ainge in answer to his question.

"It testifies," said the Senator, "that you have done your bit for world-democracy."

CALDER'S advice as to putting every Republican County Committee in the state on record in demanding a favorable vote on federal suffrage from the Senior Senator has been immediately taken up by New York leaders of the Woman's Party. Under the direction of Mrs. Adele Blauvelt, Mrs. John Rogers, Miss Elsie Hill, Mrs. F. W. Hazard and others, county committeemen are rapidly being lined up. The Monroe County Committee, Wadsworth's own county, was the first county tackled. Mrs. Blauvelt reports that in this country as in the others the women workers are sure of success. Wadsworth, it was suggested, should resign if he could not vote favorably on federal suffrage. Mrs. Brannan, the state chairman of New York, now considers his favorable vote a possibility. "And the vote is more important than the resignation."

### Activity in the Middle West

MRS. C. H. Adler, chairman of the First Congressional District of Ohio, declares that the Cincinnati group "will soon be an articulate branch of the Woman's Party." With a live group of college girls taking the lead, Ohio pressure is beginning to be felt in the Senate.

Miss Beulah Amidon's meeting in Dayton was held at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Frank Henry with nearly a hundred men and women present, many of whom had never been before touched by suffrage activity. They moved unanimously to send telegrams to their senators and to the President demanding action now.

Mr. Burkham, editor of the Dayton Journal, also spoke at the meeting, declaring that "there was no more stirring chapter in American history than the story of the White House pickets.

The Michigan Branch of the National Woman's Party will hold its annual State Convention this month at Grand Rapids, with Mrs. Nelson Whittemore, state chairman, presiding. Mrs. Florence Bayard Hilles, a member of the national executive committee, is one of the speakers of the conference which Miss Joy Young is helping to organize.

### Pittsburg Meetings Successful

MISS Amidon held a series of inspiring meetings in Pittsburgh, arranged by Miss Iris Calderhead and Miss Mary Bakewell. At the College Club rooms in the Bessemer Building, 300 young women members of the Western



Mrs. C. H. Adler, Chairman of First Congressional District, Ohio

Pennsylvania Division of the Association of Women Workers, a splendid group, listened breathlessly to the story of the pickets and the effect on Congress and the President and promised resolutions to the Senate calling for action would be passed by the eleven organizations that form the Association.

Resolutions were also passed at the Open Forum of the Irene Kauffman Settlement; at the home of Miss Lois Rankin, and at the Congress of Women's Clubs, meeting at the Hotel Chatham; and at a drawing room meeting, held at the home of Mrs. Frank Orr Johnson.

### Pressure from the South Continues

NORTH Carolina petitions continue to show the enthusiasm with which the conversion of Senators Simmons and Overman is being labored for in their home state. Meredith College and Peace Institute and the students and members of the faculty at King's business college of Raleigh, are among those who have recently petitioned the Senate.

A large petition is being gotten up in Raleigh. Among those who signed the petition to the senators to vote for the suffrage amendment are the two daughters of Senator Simmons, who live in Raleigh, Mrs. Louise Mahler and Mrs. Graham Andrews. The women who are carrying the petition around find almost no opposition and say that the sentiment is almost unanimously in favor of it.

There are two colleges for women in the state where the girls are almost unanimous for suffrage, but the officials in charge have refused to allow the young women to sign.

# The Protest of Senator Gallinger and John Hays Hammond

TO those who read between the lines the protests of Senator J. H. Gallinger, of New Hampshire, who read a letter from John Hays Hammond on the floor of the Senate last Thursday, February 28, both the words of Gallinger and Hammond's letter are significant.

Both men represent the "old guard" of the Republican Party; both have been driven to federal suffrage by the political exigency of the times. In the interruption in the Senate of the War Finance Corporation bill discussion last Thursday, to make room for this demand for action on suffrage women see capitulation. Senator Gallinger made it plain that Republicans demand that suffrage must precede war legislation and be put out of the way forever.

The shadow of the 1918 elections, it is plainly evident in the remarks of both the senator from New Hampshire and Mr. Hammond, is throwing its long silhouette across the minds of politicians, who hesitate to complicate the war issues of the fall campaigns. Senators Shafroth and Borah both added appeals against delay at this time. The passage of suffrage within the next few weeks, it would seem, is assured.

Mr. Gallinger, who is the Republican leader in the Senate, said:

"MR. President, I asked my colleague to do me the courtesy of giving me about ten minutes this morning to present a matter not connected with the bill under consideration, I having waited patiently three days for an opportunity to present it.

"I am in receipt of a letter from a gentleman well known to many members of this body, who calls attention to a matter that will soon come before the Senate for action. I will take the liberty of reading the letter and follow it with some brief comments on the important subject which my correspondent discusses. The letter is as follows:

Washington, D. C., February 21, 1918.

Hon. Jacob H. Gallinger,  
United States Senate, Washington, D. C.

MY Dear Senator Gallinger: No argument is needed to convince even the most conservative of men of the inherent justice of the cause of woman suffrage. Some, however, have questioned its expediency, but the logic of events during the past few years must compel a change of heart and mind in even these "Doubting Thomases."

England, ever slow to make radical changes in political thought, has finally recognized both the justice of the cause and the advantage to the nation in granting woman the vote.

No wise statesman can doubt the ultimate triumph of the cause in this country. Why, then, not concede now what we shall otherwise inevitably be forced to grant after a prolonged and unprofitable contest?

*It would be a great misfortune to have this issue injected into our next political campaign, as would be the result of the defeat of the federal suffrage amendment in this Congress. Win-*

ning the war is now the supreme duty of Americans, and the inspiring co-operation of our eager and patriotic women would be of incalculable service in promoting essential legislation by their influence at the polls.

The question is above state, above party; it is national.

JOHN HAYS HAMMOND.

"THE letter I have read is from the pen of a man of large affairs and broad vision, a man who has doubtless given the matter the most careful and conscientious consideration. When men such as John Hays Hammond reach the conclusion that women have a right to equal participation with men in governmental affairs it is indicative of a growing sentiment on the part of many who have heretofore been indifferent if not hostile to the equal suffrage movement.

"When one stops to reflect upon the part that woman is playing in matters connected with the war in which we are engaged it forces one to the conclusion that woman has won for herself the fullest possible recognition in everything that tends to the best interests alike of the home and the state. In all the history of the world there has been no such exhibition of loyal devotion to the cause of liberty and justice as the women have manifested throughout our entire land, a devotion certainly as great as that which our soldiers are showing in the camps and on the battle fields. No sacrifice has been too great, no labor too severe or exhausting, that the women of the country have not accepted cheerfully and performed in a way that can not fail to excite the admiration and gratitude of all lovers of our institutions.

"They ask now for full recognition of their political rights. Their request is reasonable and just and should be granted ungrudgingly and without hesitation. Already the House of Representatives, by more than a two-thirds vote, has passed the constitutional amendment submitting to the several states the question of conferring upon them the privilege of full citizenship, so far as suffrage is concerned. It remains for the Senate to take action on the subject, and I venture to express the hope that the requisite number of votes in this body will be secured when the matter shall be submitted for our consideration and action.

"For more than thirty years I have been a believer in the right of women to vote, and I have never wavered in my conviction as to the justice of the cause. That right has been denied to women simply because men have had the power to deny it. It has been an illustration of the false doctrine that might makes right, because the principles of justice are not founded on either force or governmental decrees. I have never been able to understand why women who possess every other qualification for suffrage but that of sex should be denied participation in the affairs of the state, and I look forward with pleasant an-

ticipation to the time when the mothers, the wives, and the sisters of men will be given the same rights, so far as the ballot is concerned, that the fathers, the husbands, and the brothers enjoy. A great opportunity is presented to the Senate to wipe out the inequality that now exists and to submit to these several states an opportunity to make our country a land of absolute equality, based upon the fundamental principles of right, justice, and humanity.

"I ASK that the letter of Mr. Hammond shall lie on the table as the constitutional amendment is now on the calendar, from which I trust it will soon be taken and agreed to by the Senate.

"While our boys are fighting for democracy abroad let us do our part toward establishing a real, true, genuine democracy at home."

On the protest of Senator King, of Utah, that the states had it within their power to enfranchise women, Senator Shafroth took the floor:

AS a matter of fact," said Senator Shafroth, "I believe firmly that if the procedure were to get equal suffrage by states one at a time, it would come; but I look upon the question of woman suffrage as something more than a privilege. It is true the Supreme Court has decided that the right of a person to vote is a privilege, but it is a privilege that exists after man has assumed all the powers of government and has said: 'This right shall not be extended with my consent.' That is not fair; it is simply an assumption, a usurpation of power.

"Mr. President, it is true that equal suffrage would come, even by state action alone in each instance; but the senator from Utah must remember that we have a Federal Constitution which provides the manner in which that Constitution can be amended. It can be amended in any particular when three-fourths of the states agree to it. That is the right of the states, and consequently the adoption of a constitutional amendment can not be an invasion of a state's rights. When three-fourths of the states want the Constitution to contain any clause, they have a right to have it, and to deny the right would be an invasion of the rights of three-fourths of the states, and hence of each of the same."

Senator Borah, of Idaho, then demanded the reason for the delay in the suffrage vote, already long on the calendar of the Senate. "I do not understand why, if the amendment is here for consideration, it should not be considered and disposed of. . . . I do not desire to hurry this amendment in case those who are advocating it have not sufficient votes to put it through," said Senator Borah significantly, "but I hope sincerely that it will not be unnecessarily delayed, and that we shall have a vote upon the amendment just as soon as those who are favorable to it feel safe to have a vote taken upon it."



## Comments of the Press

### The South Must Not Block Suffrage

THE question whether women ought to have the right to vote is no longer a debatable one. It has already been settled in the affirmative, in one form or another, by a third of the states of the Union. It resolves itself, therefore, into the more direct issue, How long shall the unenfranchised be denied that which in justice and decency is their right? How long shall the present inequality of practice be permitted to exist? The federal amendment is a short cut to a result which all far-seeing persons now recognize to be not only right but inevitable. It may mean new difficulties for politicians in the South, but they must adjust themselves to the inevitable. They cannot, dare not, interpose local problems largely of their own making to block a national movement the motive force of which is justice and reason.—*Philadelphia Public Ledger*, January 9, 1918.

### "Thank God for Wilson" Who Has "Influence!"

WITH more fervor than the members of the National Woman's Party, the safe and sane, the patriotic and every day people of the United States, whose first business is to win the war, say "Thank God for Wilson."

They say this because with the President's influence the whole disgusting agitation may be ended by the passage of the amendment which will put the question of suffrage up to the states again where it will be decided perhaps forever.—*Helena (Mont.) Independent*, January 11, 1918.

### Virginia for Federal Suffrage

SENATOR E. Lee Trinkle and Delegate R. H. Willis, two of Virginia's strong, representative men, the latter floor leader in the House, are to be felicitated on the verbiage of their joint resolution requesting United States Senators Martin and Swanson to vote for and use their influence for the passage of the federal suffrage amendment. After stating that President Wilson indorses the amendment as an act of right and justice to the women of the country who are standing back of the war as "an indispensable second line defense, without which the war cannot be won," the resolution recites that thousands of Virginia men and women believe that the women of Virginia should be given the suffrage on equal terms with men; hence, the proposed action. We hope all the forward-looking men in the general assembly will rally to the support of this admirable resolution and effect its adoption. Virginia can well afford to go on record as indorsing any measure that tends to exalt womanhood and recognize its mighty force in the uplift of the nation. Men of brains need woman's unselfish help

in planning legislation for the country's welfare, and by according her equal suffrage privileges with themselves a potent incentive to study political science is imparted. That the equal suffrage states have opened to their women a wonderful vista is not to be denied, and in countless ways the experiment has proved its value to the participating commonwealths. How unfair to deprive, not only the state itself, but the shackled sex of similar advantages! Surely, Virginia women are as well able to differentiate men and measures as their enfranchised sisters of the West. New York has seen the wisdom of enlisting the women of the Empire state in the public service, and will no more regret the step taken than any one of the equal suffrage states that preceded. To deny that woman is fit to help choose our public officials, fit to decide on legislation affecting the home and the individual is a monstrous reflection on the sex now forming that "indispensable second line of defense" so luminously portrayed in the language of the resolution. We affirm, without fear of contradiction, that Virginia's women are in every way competent to do their full duty as citizens, and the general assembly can ill afford to hold to the contrary.—*Richmond Evening Journal*, January 24, '18.

### The Fearless South

HOW many white people really know what the negroes are thinking? The Charleston Messenger, a negro newspaper published weekly in this city, says: "With the passage of the national woman's suffrage bill by Congress, a new door of hope is opened to the negro in the South. It places the negro beyond the rejection of his rights at the ballot box. There can be no class legislation and since the ballot has been put into the hands of the women, it opens a wide door to the negro, as negro women are competent when it comes to reading the Constitution of their state." Southern suffragists have argued that negro women could be kept out of politics just as negro men have been. Evidently this view is not shared by negro leaders.—*Charleston (S. C.) News and Courier*, January 21, 1918.

### At Least in Earnest

THERE is an air of freedom and camaraderie about the headquarters that is homelike. They laugh at their jail experience and then they make loud protest against the Administration. The spirit of rebellion runs high.

These are the women who declare they are fighting for the cause of women. They declare they are fighting the only way. Maybe they are, maybe they are not. At any rate, every one of them is in earnest.—*Chicago (Ill.) Eagle*, January 10, 1918.

### Anne Martin Candidate for Senate

*Concluded from Page 7*

mining camps on horseback, going to places that neither trains nor automobiles could reach to "win one more vote for suffrage."

Her father, William O'Hara Martin, was for many years a Senator in the Nevada State Legislature, president of the Washoe County Bank, and of various industrial corporations in Reno.

Miss Martin and her mother still have their home in Reno. Her two brothers and three brothers-in-law volunteered for service when this country went to war. Her eldest brother is now with the American Expeditionary Force in France, the other is a first lieutenant in the Officers Reserve Corps. Her brother-in-law, Tisgey Craven Gregory, is a captain in the famous "Grizzly" regiment of California.

Miss Martin graduated from Nevada University and from Leland Stanford. She was professor of history in the University of Nevada, and taught constitutional government. She attended Cambridge University, and made a study of governmental problems in a tour of European countries. She returned to this country, not to take her doctor's degree, but to devote all her splendid energy to the fight of American women for their political enfranchisement. Since the Nevada victory, she has been in Washington, one of the leaders in the campaign on Congress for the passage of the federal suffrage amendment. As head of the legislative department she has followed congressional procedure for three years, until they say at the Capitol "She knows more politics than any one woman has any right to know."

Miss Martin will leave Washington in about three weeks to organize her campaign in Nevada.

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### Those Damage Suits

THE White House picketers, it is said, are preparing to sue their recent jailers for damages in the sum of \$400,000, basing their action not upon their imprisonment but rather upon indignities alleged to have been heaped upon them while in custody. They assert that they were slapped, shoved, and sworn at, and that they were generally "treated like drunken women of the underworld rather than women of education and refinement who were guilty of no other offense than contending for their inherent rights." Regardless of what may be our opinion of the conduct of these women in picketing the White House, or how thoroughly we may sanction their incarceration, we cannot decently subscribe to the sort of treatment they assert was accorded them. If it is a fact that they were subjected to brutality of the nature described, those guilty of maltreating them should be drastically and promptly punished. There are too many men in this country today who, because they carry the keys to jails and prisons, fancy themselves superior beings whose function it is to bullyrag and abuse those unfortunate enough to come under their care.—*Wayne (Ind.) News, December 6, 1918.*

### No Empty Honors, Thanks

THE suffrage workers, who have been spurned by both Democratic and Republican national platforms, who have been dodged by representatives and senators of all parties, and who have had to fight their way to recognition, are at last finding themselves popular among the politicians, with the prospect of becoming more popular as the roll of women voters becomes longer. But it is evident from the pertinacity with which they have pursued their object that the mere naming of them on advisory committees will not suffice. They have ideas, and will demand something more than having their names printed on official letterheads.—*Washington (D. C.) Post, January 16, 1918.*

### Mr. Wilson's Neighbors Once More

HALF a block from the northeast corner of the White House grounds, and under the eye of President Wilson's windows, is the new headquarters of the National Woman's Party. The active wing of the suffrage movement has paid the rent for two years in advance. If Congress passes the amendment this winter, the nation-wide campaign to secure ratification by the state legislatures will be directed from here. If Congress fails to pass the measure, the fight for favorable action will be renewed by these women who sent more than 100 of their number to political prison in the national capital in the past six months, rather than give up their right of petition for enfranchisement.

Various names have been suggested for the rededication of this old mansion, where wealth and fashion and diplomatic intrigue once dined and danced. It may be named Victory Hall, or Liberty Hall, or Emancipation House, or Courage House.—*New York Call, January 2, 1918.*

### Why the President Changed His Mind

TWELVE Western states enfranchised women. The women voters of these states threw a large scare into political leaders. Standing as a class they could easily turn the tide of any party. A group of suffragists headed by Alice Paul and known as the militants took advantage of this opportunity to organize the women voters and to speed up the suffrage propaganda by first page advertising in all the newspapers of the country.

And no small share of the credit of the suffrage victory—for it is a victory even when most of the work is to be done in lining up thirty-six legislatures to ratify the federal amendment, when it is passed—is due to the so-called militants who did such dramatic things in such a dramatic way that no newspaper could afford to ignore them and the cause they served.

With an astuteness learned from a close study of political bossism they held the political party in power responsible for the legislation enacted or for its failure to enact legislation.

For four years President Wilson withstood their pleas for endorsement of the federal suffrage amendment on the ground that the question was one for the states to decide. For the first year of his second term President Wilson, who had voted for suffrage in New Jersey, continued to hold his own views.—*Frances Wayne, The Denver Post, January 10, 1918.*

### Occoquan and Whittaker

IT will be welcome news to suffragists all over the country, without regard to whether they are actively affiliated with the Woman's Party, to know that Superintendent Whittaker is no longer connected with the Occoquan workhouse.

Our readers will recall that at the time the picketers were locked up in Occoquan charges of "mismanagement, sanitary depravity, indignity and brutality" were lodged against the warden of that institution by leaders in the Woman's Party. Publication of some of the details of the indignities that were heaped upon these ladies while confined in Occoquan aroused intense indignation throughout the country and had much to do with hastening the suffrage question to a favorable vote in the House.

It will be interesting, too, to note that quite recently three men who killed a guard while escaping from Occoquan have been successfully defended. One was acquitted, one was released, outright, and the third was given a three months' sentence for assault. Their sole defense was the "inhuman treatment" to which they were subjected at Occoquan.

While no explanation of Superintendent Whittaker's resignation has been forthcoming, in the light of these latter developments, it is not difficult to understand why he is no longer directing the policies of this penal institution.—*Colorado Springs Gazette, February, 1918.*

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